

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:85

ANSWERED ON:24.07.2006

PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched a Rs.1200 crore project to strengthen agricultural research; and
- (b) if so, the details and the modus operandi thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) is designed to address the problems of productivity, profitability and quality enhancement of agricultural produce, raising the income of farmers and improving the livelihood of rural communities located in disadvantaged areas in the country. The overall objective of the National Agricultural Innovation Project is to facilitate the accelerated and sustainable transformation of Indian agriculture in support of poverty alleviation and income generation.

The Project has four components, viz.

- (i) ICAR as the catalyzing agent for the management of change of the Indian National Agricultural Research System (NARS);
- (ii) Research on production to consumption systems;

(iii) Research on sustainable rural livelihood security; and

(iv) Basic and Strategic research in the frontier areas of agricultural sciences. The different components of the Project would be implemented by a large network of Public research institutions, Private Sector, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.

The project is approved from 1st July, 2006 and the completion period is six years. The total project cost is US \$ 250 million out of which the World Bank's share would be US \$ 200 million as credit and Government of India's share would be US \$ 50 million. In Indian Rupees, the project cost is equivalent to Rs.1189.99 crore based on the prevailing exchange rate.

The Project would be implemented through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Implementation of NAIP would be highly participatory and decentralized. A broad array of NARS clients and stakeholders including other relevant Ministries/Departments, NGOs, private sector, farmer organizations etc. would be involved.